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"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

SCRAPS FROM OUR NOTE BOOK.

LIFE OF VEGETABLES.—It is perhaps impossible to tell what life is—but it is easy to tell what it is not. When the vessels and organs of an organized being cease their action, and the fluids which before circulated freely cease to move, and the laws of chemical decomposition or decay take place—life is said to have ceased.

Now, that vegetables possess organs is beyond a doubt—that these organs possess a species of life may be proved by various facts. In the first place they resist the laws of chemical decomposition. Those fluids which, if it were not for the vitality contained in the plant, would at once aid in resolving it into its original elements, move on in obedience to a superior power and are rendered subservient in the formation of different vegetable products.

One of the most distinguishing properties of the vital principles of vegetables is that of excitability, or capacity of being acted upon by the application of natural stimuli impelling it to the exertion of its vegetative powers. These natural stimuli are heat and light.

The stimulating influence of light upon the vital principle of the plant is discoverable both in the stem, the leaf and the flower. The direction of the stem is influenced by the action of light, as well as is also the color of its leaves. Distance from direct rays of light, or a weak light produces a lack of color or a bleaching of the plant. The luxuriance of the branches depend upon the presence and action of light as is observable in plants cultivated in hot houses or warm rooms. These branches do not lean so much to the flues or sources of heat as they do to the windows or passages through which the light passes.

Hence also the branches of plants are more luxuriant accordingly as they are placed on the south, or on that side which affords the most light.

The position of the leaf is also strongly affected by the action of light to which it always turns its upper surface. This may be readily perceived in case of trees, or vines trained to a wall, from which you will perceive the upper surfaces always turn. If the upper surface should be turned from the light and confined there a while, it will invariably assume its original position if it should be liberated. There are some exceptions to this however—in the leaves of the mallows and some of the sword shaped leaves. As light produces such an effect upon leaves so the absence of it, produces an opposite one, for it is known that the leaves of plants assume a very different position in the night, from what they do in the day. This is particularly the case with winged leaves, which though fully expanded through the day begin to droop and bend down about sunset, and during the fall of the evening dew, till they meet together on the inferior side of the leaf stalk. This may be seen in almost all plants as in common clover. This is what Linnæus denominated the sleep of plants.

The expansion of the flower is also effected by the stimulus of light. Many plants do not fully expand their petals except when the sun shines and hence alternately open them by day, and shut them by night. This is exemplified in the flowers of the common pea and the dandelion.

But although many plants open their flowers by day and shut them by night yet all flowers do not open

and shut them at the same time. Plants of the same species are tolerably regular in regard to time other circumstances being the same and hence the daily opening and shutting of the flowers have been considered as *Flora's clock*.

Those flowers which require but a slight application of stimulus open early, while others requiring more, open later. Some do not open till noon and some which cannot bear the action of light at all, bloom only in the night, as the night blooming cereus. It seems doubtful, whether light is the *solo agent* in this business. It is said that flowers at the equator open always at the same hour, and that tropical flowers change their hour of opening according to the length of the day. It has been observed also that flowers of plants that are removed from a warmer to a colder climate, expand at a later hour in the latter. A flower that opens at six o'clock in the morning at Senegal, will not open in France or England till 8 or 9, nor in Sweden till ten.

A flower that opens at ten o'clock in Senegal, will not open in France or England till noon or later, and in Sweden it will not open at all, and a flower that will not open till noon in Senegal will not open at all in England. The opening and shutting of some flowers does not depend so much on the stimulus of light as on the existence of the atmosphere, hence their opening and shutting betokens a change. A writer observes that if the Siberian Sow thistle (*Sonchus*) shuts its flowers at night, you may expect the ensuing day to be fine; but if it opens you may expect, says he, clouds and rain.

If the African Marygold, he observes, remains shut after seven o'clock in the morning, rain may be expected.

If the Morning Glory (*Convolvulus*) or the Pimpernell (*Anagallis*) has already opened, it will close its blossoms at the approach of rain—hence some have called it the poor man's weather glass.

BREEDS OF SHEEP IN MAINE.

As the season is at hand when those who wish to breed sheep, will be looking about them for the best stock, a word or two may not be amiss. It is best to first consider what breed will suit your wants and intentions, and have a system to go by, for no animal, unless it be the hog will degenerate and run out, as we say, sooner than the sheep by careless and haphazard breeding. There can now be found most of the standard breeds of the day, in Maine, such as the Merino, Saxony, Dishley, South Down, and also grades of these different breeds, so that those who wish a mixed breed, ready made to hand, can be accommodated. Or those who wish to amuse themselves, and exercise their skill, judgement, and ingenuity, in the business, may manufacture a breed to suit themselves.

The principal object however, of raising sheep in this State is for the wool. Mutton, is not much used or at any rate, not so much as near large cities where a great amount of meat, of the cheaper kinds is demanded. The facility of grazing beef among us, makes that kind of food comparatively cheap, and there are very few who do not prefer it to mutton. In growing wool, the merino fleece should never be lost sight of, or neglected.

In the first place it is the basis for improving the fineness of all the coarser kinds and were it not for the law of nature, that the finer the fleece the more slender will be the sheep, and the more delicate its constitution; or in other words, were they as robust

and strong as the Dishley, the South Down, or the Leicestershire, there would in all probability be but very few of any other kind raised. But it is necessary to have a variety of sorts of wool, for in fact we often need a coarse coat than a fine one, therefore it becomes necessary to cultivate other breeds. We sometimes wish to throw in a little alloy among our merinos, and Saxons to improve the health and shape, for in spite of the care of the most experienced shepherds, they will sometimes become degenerated, a little Dishley or South Down, then becomes important.

About one fourth South Down is thought by some to be just the thing for this purpose.

Those who are anxious to procure this blood for this purpose can find it at Mr. Vaughan's at Hallowell, or of friend Moses Taber in Vassalboro'. R. H. Greene Esq., of Winslow, can supply pure Dishleys, and friend Haines of Hallowell, can fit you out with grades of Dishley and South Down, and throw you in a Bedford or half blood Berkshire pig to boot.

QUERIES RESPECTING THE ALDER.

The alder is a very common in this, and most of the States. It is said that it used for burning bricks and a little before the kiln is sufficiently burned, it will give them a very handsome cherry red color. Is this true? If true, how can it be accounted for? The charcoal of this wood is much used in the manufacture of gunpowder because of its compactness, we suppose.

CLUB FEET.

MR. O'REILLY'S ANSWER TO MR. DREW'S STRICTURES.

It will be recollected that a remark made by us, sometime since on an operation for club feet—brought out Rev. Mr. Drew, who animadverted on Dr. Brown, rather severely. Mr. O'Reilly replied, and now rejoins to Mr. Drew's answer.—ED

In your article you state that I don't "join issue" on the "main points of your article." Now sir, I care not what you call "main points." I know what I considered objectionable, and which were to me the "main points," and our readers may judge whether they were merely incidental remarks or not—they were as follows:

"From what little knowledge we have of the two cases in Augusta, we have serious doubts whether either of them will have as straight feet as any children whatever. Let us wait results before deciding facts," (and this you call waiting results, do you?) "In the opinion of medical men who have examined them, all the causes of contraction are not, and cannot be removed" (although your honorable correspondent says, he has made one perfect cure) "and they are confident that however straight the feet may be, when the children become able to walk, they will 'toe in' Indian fashion." How faithfully these medical men have examined the two cases, may be inferred from the fact that one of the children has been able to walk these three years) "There is danger, too, of injury to children with their feet laced and confined in one position for months as a part of the method of cure." (I should be glad to know how you expect a cure without confining the feet.) "Few can withstand much confinement and binding without danger to the limbs and general health of the body." I have never heard of injury of body or limb arising from this part of the method of cure. Pray did your correspondent accomplish his perfect cure without confining the foot? this question ought to be answered and if he did—it ought to be explained for the public good or does he confine the foot in any case.

It would seem that your first article was calculated to deceive, for one must infer from your remark, viz: "From what little knowledge we have of the two cases" &c. that you must have either seen the two cases or as you again intimate in your last article you

can sometimes acquire some "little knowledge" by means of more competent examiners—medical men of the first respectability. You certainly have not seen both cases, if you have seen any, and no medical men or "competent examiners" except what belonged to Augusta had at that time seen my child—and yet you hold the following language in your last article; "If it will be any satisfaction to Mr. O'R. we would inform him that our information came from no Augusta physician." I beg you will explain by what process of logic you will prove that you obtained your "little knowledge" of the two cases in Augusta from "competent examiners" medical men who examined them. You will at once perceive that if my "ammunition" was discharged at the wrong duck—the pointer and not the gunner was at fault—for you say you "never exchanged a word with an Augusta physician on the subject." I will give one more example of your happy mode of reasoning—what you call one of your main points (let it be noticed) which is "that the cures were not yet effected and it was therefore premature to give Dr. Brown the credit of success till results should be known." "Does Mr. O'R. join issue on them? No, he does not" &c., and again in the same article, you assert what from the above you must be aware is without the slightest foundation, viz: that I undertook to prove that my, and Mr. Pike's children were cured. I never stated any such thing, for I am very sensible that my child is not yet completely cured (though I have no doubt of ultimate success) and I have not seen Mr. P's child since operated on. I should not have expected such a course from you, such misrepresentation, if wilful, is beneath you and cannot subserve the public. As to your second "main point" I have yet to learn that quackery and high prices are concomitants. I do not join issue with you on this "point," for I am not a competent judge of another man's prices—but I believe most professional men charge more than the intrinsic value of their services. No man will say that it is worth a dollar by day and five dollars at night (which is, I believe, the Boston charge) to look at a patient's tongue and shake the head profoundly, or that a lawyer earns from two to five dollars for giving a single answer (frequently a wrong one) to a question, yet such charges are daily made and paid, and you—public guardians forget to warn the public—and why? because a Yankee public needs no hints about the safe-keeping of its money.—You need have no fears, they will take care of their pockets.

Sir, I have no objection to your faulting the high charges of any profession and wish you may succeed in reducing them to a level with other labor, but if there be any reason why one surgeon should receive a greater reward than others, Dr. Brown is, I think entitled to it, and to the public confidence from the fact that he has given his whole and undivided attention to this branch of surgery to the exclusion of all others, and that he has the aid (no matter from what cause) of the most honorable and scientific surgeons and physicians in New England, which I think might shield him from the charge of "quackery" and by entitling him to the greatest confidence render his services more valuable. A Dr. Smart of Kennebunkport would have charged Mr. Pike 20 dollars for each operation which was only five dollars less—and Mr. P. knew all he had to pay before he sent his child to Boston—therefore there can be nothing dishonorable in the charge though it is a very high one.

As to the boots, Dr. Brown, I believe, has nothing to do with that charge. I had to pay ten dollars for a pair of boots of much simpler construction four years ago.

In conclusion I beg to assure you that with undiminished confidence of ultimate success, I am now as I always was, willing to "wait results." With this assurance, I will dismiss this subject until results be known. I am Sir, your ob't serv.

GILBERT H. O'REILLY.

Augusta, Me, Oct. 3rd, 1840.

P. S. Dr. Hubbard of Hallowell has been to see my child and stated that it was the most satisfactory case he had known of.

NOTE. We think our friend Drew wrong in accusing Dr. Brown of quackery. He has published a work upon the subject giving the mode of operation, and due credit to the first discoverer of the mode. This is not much like quackery.—Ed.

Original.

FALL FROSTS, &c.

MR. HOLMES:—As I have a little leisure, I will copy some of my records of the first frosts in the fall. Early frosts are a great damage to vegetation.

1835. Sept. 8. Fair. Some frost last night on the river land, swamps, &c. 11th. Fair and dry—N. W. wind. Some frost last night. Many of the farmers are burning their fell trees, bushes, old fences, &c.—15th. Fair weather and fine except some frost last night. Thermometer ranged at 40 degrees at sunrise. 16th. Fair and cold. Some frost last night. Corn, potatoes, &c. on the low land is hurt by the frost. Po-

tatoes in general are rusty; wheat tolerably good; oats and peas very good; pumpkins good; cucumbers scarce; apples not plenty. Thermometer ranged at 37 degrees at sunrise. 17th. Fair—some frost last night. This day I started and took a journey Down East. I passed through the towns of Leeds, Wayne, Winthrop, Hallowell, Sidney, Waterville, Fairfield, Clin on, Canaan, Pittsfield, Palmyra, Newport, Etna, Carmel, and arrived at Newport on the twentieth. In all of these towns the corn, potatoes pumpkins and beans were green, not hurt by the frost on the hilly land, but on the low land were generally killed. 28th. Cloudy—becomes fair and pleasant. I travelled from Palmyra through St. Albans, Ripley, Cambridge, and Parkman.—Corn and beans not hurt by the frost on the hilly land, but dead on the low land. Oct. 10th. Fair. Quite a frost last night that kills the beans potatoes, pumpkins, &c. The ground considerably frozen. My clay mortar not suitable to use in the morning. Oct. 12. Fair. Froze hard last night. The ground considerably frozen, and the ice on small places of water will bear a goose.

Sept. 3, 1836. Cloudy, and some rain—some frost last night on the low land. 6th. Fair and dry, with N. W. wind. Some frost this morning. 7th. Fair. The frost this morning does much damage to vegetables. 8th. Some frost this morning, and quite a fog rises from the rivers and ponds. 19th. Fair and very hot. The Thermometer ranged at about 87 degrees at four o'clock, and at eight o'clock stood the same. 29th. Quite a frost this morning that kills the greatest part of the green vegetables on the hilly land. Oct. 11th. Fair, and the ground frozen too much to dig potatoes in the morning. It becomes pleasant and warm. Oct. 12. A cold N. E. snow storm—one inch of snow fall.

Sept. 1, 1837. Fair. Some frost last night. Sept. 2. Fair. The frost this morning killed corn, potatoes, beans, &c. on the low land. 3d. Fair, cold and dry, with N. W. wind. Some frost this morning. 11th. Fair and very warm in the forenoon; becomes cloudy in the afternoon. The weather for 15 days past has been good for harvesting grain; the greatest part of the time remarkably good for harvesting the crop of wheat. The wheat fields are generally very good. Much wheat was sowed last spring—but little corn was planted, and some of it was destroyed by insects, and some on the low land was killed by the frost a number of days ago. Oats in general are fair. I have noticed more buckwheat sowed within the circuit of my knowledge than I have seen for a number of years, and that generally is good. There are different opinions in regard to the worth of buckwheat. I consider a bushel of buckwheat worth as much as a bushel of corn for man or beast. I have been in the habit (not every year) of sowing some for twenty-five years. I have found that my horse, hogs and hens are very fond of it.—Much was said about the weevil destroying the wheat in the fore part of the season, but a part of that story has fallen to the ground. In my small field the hens and chickens have destroyed more wheat than the weevil. 14th. Fair. Some frost last night. Oct. 3d. Fair, with cold N. W. wind. 4th. Fair, with very cold and high N. W. wind. Corn, potatoes, beans, pumpkins, &c. are killed on the hilly land.

Sept. 3d, 1838. Fair—Cloudy. Frost last night that kills vegetables on the low land. 4th. Fair. Frost on the low and river land this morning. Oct. 8th. Fair, frosty morning. The first frost to kill vegetables on the hilly land. 9th. Fair, frosty morning. 19th. Cloudy. N. E. wind. Began to snow and rain in the afternoon.

Sept. 1, 1839. Fair. Some frost on the low land and bridges. 4th. Fair and fine weather for harvesting the late sown grain, and much was sown late because of the abundance of the rains. 27th. Fair and cold in the morning. Some frost last night. 29th. Fair. Some frost on the low land. Apples are scarce; in the opinion of some, owing to the cold nights and winds last spring. Oct. 2. Fair—Cloudy. Some frost last night on the low land. 4th. Cloudy, cold and dry N. W. wind. 5th. Fair. A frost that kills pumpkins, bean leaves, &c. Potatoes generally rusty, and some of them have been dead several weeks.—Grain is generally rusty.

Sept. 13, 1840. Fair, cloudy, and a little rain. Some frost last night on the low lands, swamps, &c. 14th. Fair, cloudy, and a little rain. Frost on the low land last night that kills potatoes, pumpkins, bean leaves, &c.—none on the hilly rocky land. Corn is out of the way of frost, and is generally good. Summer grain is generally rusty and light. Buckwheat and Indian wheat that I have seen is much blighted, owing in the opinion of some to the dry and hot weather. Potatoes to all appearance will be rather light, owing to the dry weather the fore part of the season, and a part are rusty in almost every field within the circuit of my knowledge. Beans, pumpkins, water melons and cucumbers are good. Apples are much better than they have been for several years past. Rats, squirrels, mice and grasshoppers are more plenty than they have been for half a century, and for about two score years I have made records every day. The grub or cut worm, the yellow wire and spindle worm, the striped and garden bug have done but very

little damage to vegetables this year, and but a few were to be seen. The above insects have done much damage for several years past. Many experiments have been tried to prevent the yellow worm, &c. from destroying the corn in the first part of the season.—Snuff, ashes, lime, &c., watering with hen dung, herb tea, &c. has not proved fatal to the striped bug on the small vines in the first part of the season, but the thumb and finger is the surest way to destroy them.

J. W.

Turner, Oct. 7th, 1840.

CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR.

The annual Cattle Show and Fair of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society was holden in Winthrop on Wednesday and Thursday last. The weather on both days was very fine, and perhaps a larger collection of people was in attendance than ever before.—The show, on the whole, may not have been so good as last year, although some departments were considerably better. There were not so many nor so good working oxen exhibited—of milch cows there were quite as many as usual—of swine there were more and better than ever before—and there were also more sheep than usual. The other stock exhibited we believe was about the same in number and quality as at previous exhibitions.

The manufactured articles were thought to be fully as good or better than usual, although there was not so great a variety as there has sometimes been. There was not so great a variety of machines and so many agricultural implements as we could wish to have seen.

The Ploughing Match took place on Thursday.—There were six competitors, and we understand that they all did well, but we were not present at the trial.

After the Ploughing Match an excellent Address was listened to by Hon. JAMES BATES, abounding in sound sense and good humor. The Society voted to have the Address published in the Maine Farmer, and we hope very soon to be able to lay it before our readers.

We are unable to give further particulars this week in consequence of the absence of the Editor, who left town on Wednesday evening for the purpose of delivering an Address before the Somerset Central Ag. Society on Thursday. The Reports will be published soon.

The thanks of the Society were tendered to the Choir for the excellent music at the Meeting House on Thursday.

SLOVENLINESS OF FARMERS. We do not know whether this is peculiar to farmers; but as our business is with them, we shall let other classes take care of themselves and speak of the farmer only. We are frank to confess that in this respect a great improvement has taken place in the country. But how much room is there for still farther improvement. Look at the wood-piles, the barn-yards, and the door-ways of many of our farmers; piles of decayed logs; old sleds old tools, hoes, shovels, broken forks, old cruckery, and five hundred other unmentionables clog up every passage; manure enough is wasted every year to enrich acres of land; and commonly in such cases the hogs and fowls have as regular ingress and egress into the back door and front door, as if they belonged to the house; in truth, we have seen certainly in one case, the pig and the child laying down together in the same entry, in the full enjoyment of the *otium cum dignitate*.—New-England Farmer.

A NEW VARIETY OF GRAIN.—An English paper gives an account of a new variety of grain, of which a trial has been made this season, though not to a sufficient extent to test satisfactorily its usefulness. The account states that last year a mechanic in Bedale, Yorkshire, received a letter from a relative in Peru, South America. In it were a few grains of what he called Peruvian barley which he stated produced two crops from one sowing in that country, that is when one crop was reaped, shoots were proceeding from the stems, which the same season brought to maturity. From curiosity more than any other motive at that time, these grains were planted in a garden, and those grains that vegetated produced a number of stems each, which came to maturity. This year, not having any place where the grain could be safely sown and taken care of, he was permitted to occupy a bed twenty-one yards long and seven feet wide, in the garden of a lady of fortune in Bedale. Some more of the grain was grown in a little garden of his own, and the produce of one indifferent head was cultivated in the garden of the Rev. John Monson. The corn grew

luxuriantly, and produced from some of the grains upwards of thirty stems; from its great height and luxuriance, it suffered from the severe weather in July, but it was cut the 10th of August. There were some green stems growing from the root at the time, but not sufficient to justify the expectation of a second crop in that climate. The grain when standing, has the appearance of barley, but is much whiter, with a long beard or awn. On being pulled and rubbed in the hand, the awn comes off with the husk, and leaves the grain bare like wheat, to which it bears a stronger resemblance than to barley, and by some considered a species of wheat. One hundred pounds sterling was offered for the produce of the small plot above-mentioned, on which the crop notwithstanding the disadvantage of the season, was very great. This sum was refused, the owner expecting to get more by selling it in small quantities.—*Boston Courier*.

Chinese Method of Rearing Ducks.—In China the rearing of Ducks is an object of great moment. The major part of them are hatched by artificial heat; the eggs being laid in boxes of sand, are placed on a brick hearth, to which is given a proper heat during the time required for hatching. The ducklings are fed with craw-fish and crabs boiled and cut small, and afterwards mixed with boiled rice: and in about a fortnight they are able to shift for themselves. The Chinese then provide them with an old step mother, who leads them where they are to find provender being first put on board a sampan or boat, which is destined for their habitation, and from which the whole flock, often it is said to the amount of three or four hundred, go out to feed and return at command. This method is used nine months out of the twelve, for in the colder months it does not succeed.

The Ohio Farmer gives the following mode of making apple molasses, and we have no doubt that it is more sweet, and for some purposes superior to that made by boiling down the juice or cider; for this will be likely to change in some measure by the vinous fermentation, before it can be boiled down.

APPLE MOLASSES. There is many a good housewife who has more faith in her own experience, than in the science of chemistry, that knows not the value of apple molasses; but still believes it to be the same kind of tart, smoky, worthless stuff that has from time immemorial been made by boiling down cider. It is not within my province, at this time, to attempt to convince such that there is a chemical difference, though it might easily be shown, that they are almost as different as sugar and vinegar. I would, however, invite them to lay aside their cider this year, and try the plan of boiling down the juice of the apple that has not been exposed to the air by grinding and pressing.

Last autumn I placed a number of bushels of Wetherill's sweetening apples in two large brass kettles, with water just sufficient to steam them; when they boiled soft, I turned them into a new splinter basket, containing some straw, and placed on them a barrel head and a heavy weight. The juice was caught in a tub. This was repeated until I had juice enough to fill the kettle, when I commenced boiling down, and attended to it strictly, frequently skimming it, till it became of the consistency of cane molasses. The native acids of the fruit imparted a peculiar flavor, otherwise it could hardly be distinguished from the syrup of the cane. It was used in my family for making sweetmeats pies, for dressing on puddings and griddle cakes, and a variety of other purposes. The cost of making it is very trifling, and the means are within the reach of every farmer.

CLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

Important Railway Invention.—Mr. Henry M. Naglee, a young but ingenious and accomplished engineer of this city, has just invented a mode of constructing the rails for curves in rail roads, which we think, is of a very important character. It attains the great desideratum in civil engineering of enabling cars to turn upon the shortest necessary curves without difficulty or danger,—the usual inconveniences are escaped—friction is diminished, and the axles are exempt from injury, while the wheels of the car regulate themselves to the turn, avoiding the danger of running off. The invention is simple and upon the combination of two established mechanical principles. The committee of the Franklin Institute have, as we understand, awarded Mr. Naglee the Scott's Legacy premium for his important and useful improvement.

The Atmospheric Railway.—The experiments on the line of railroad which runs from the Uxbridge

road, near Shepherd's-bush, across Wormwood Scrubs, to the line of the Great Western Railroad, and on which carriages are propelled by means of the atmosphere forcing its way into an exhausted tube or pipe laid down between the rails, on the principle for which Messrs. Clegg and Samuda have obtained patents, have attracted considerable attention. The experiments were a few days ago attended by the Government commissioners, Sir Frederick Smith and Professor Barlow, who examined every part with the most minute attention, and witnessed the transit of the carriages along the line. Several of the most eminent engineers and practical men were also present, and expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the results. The carriages travel at the rate of 30 miles an hour, apparently by magic.—Those who have been accustomed to see the cumbrous locomotive engines roaring and smoking along the lines of railroad, will be astonished to see a train moving with the rapidity of 30 miles an hour, without any preceptible power to put it in motion, and it is difficult to persuade many persons of the fact that trains can be impelled by means so simple as those employed.—[*London paper*.]

Antiquity of Railroads and Gas.—A late English paper states that railways were used in Northumberland as early in 1633; and Lord Keeper North mentions them in 1671 in his journey to that country. A Mr. Spedding, coal agent to Lord Lonsdale, at Whitehaven, in 1764, had the gas from his lordship's coal-pits conveyed by pipes into the office for the purpose of lighting it; and proposed to the magistrates of Whitehaven to convey the gas by pipes through the streets to light the town, which they refused.

A new mode of forming musket balls by machinery, instead of casting them, has been invented in England, and the process has been adopted by the Board of Ordnance at Woolwich.

Buttons.—The manufacture of buttons has at length reached the *ne plus ultra* of perfection. An ingenious Frenchman has invented a button in which the principle of nut and screw is applied, so that, without a stitch, buttons may be far more securely, as well as more speedily, put upon clothes than in the ordinary way; and those who have not souls above buttons may, if they please, have half-a-dozen suits of buttons to each suit of clothes, the top being screwed on to the shank.—*Birmingham Advertiser*.

Important Discovery.—Mr. John Wybridge of Preston, it is said has discovered a chemical process, by means of which steel may be so hardened as to cut glass more easily than the diamond.

Young Mechanics.—There is no class of the community upon whom the future welfare of the country so depends, as upon the rising generation of young mechanics. If they are intelligent, sober, industrious, and consequently independent, able and accustomed to judge for themselves, and governed in their own best interests—if they are men of this sort, the mechanics will form one of the strongest bulwarks to our free institutions, and the best hope of the republic.—*Sentinel and Witness*.

SAFETY VALVE TO STEAM BOILERS.—At the last meeting of the Society of Arts, the gold Isis medal was awarded to Mr. Robert McEwen, for a mercurial gauge, which answers the double purpose of an indicator of steam pressure and a safety-valve for engine boilers. The novelty of the invention consists in the employment of a mercurial tube as a safety vent for the steam: the tubes having hitherto been used only as indicators of pressure—and of a length to allow the steam to acquire a dangerous degree of pressure without giving any other notice of the fact than what may be observed by the eye. As the action of Mr. McEwen's safety-valve depends on a purely physical principle—viz, of the elastic force of steam to the static pressure of mercury, without a mechanical obstruction of any kind, it affords a free vent for the steam when its pressure exceeds the limit, corresponding to the length to which the tubes are adjusted, according to the strength of the boiler.—*London Times*.

Machine to Copy Paintings.—M. Leipman, liberally assisted by the Prussian Government, has succeeded in perfecting his process of taking copies of oil paintings, ancient and modern, and has constructed the instruments and presses necessary for its application. They are said to be of the simplest kind, and so easy of use, that one who is an entire stranger to the arts, would have no difficulty in executing the copies, fifty of which, from a picture of ordinary dimensions, may be obtained in the space of six hours. The Prussian Government, it is said, are about to purchase M. Lippman's discovery, with a design of giving it to the public.

Earthquakes.—The phenomenon of earthquakes seem strongly to indicate the action of elastic fluids, endeavoring to force their way into the atmosphere.—On the shores of the South Sea the concussion is almost instantaneously communicated from Chili to the Gulf of Guayaquil, over a space of 2,070 miles. The

shocks appear to be much stronger the more distant the country is from active volcanoes; and a province is the more agitated, the smaller the number of funnels by which the subterranean cavities communicate with the open air.—*Humboldt*.

The patentee of the Archimedes screw propeller steam ship has published a challenge, offering to run that vessel against any other steam ship of equal power and tonnage, in open sea, a distance of from four to five hundred miles for one thousand guineas.

A gardener at Glasgow, having noticed that a piece of woollen rag which had blown upon a current bush, was soon covered with caterpillars, he placed pieces of woollen cloth in every bush in his garden, and found the next day, that the caterpillars had universally taken to them for shelter. In this way he destroyed many thousands.

A French gentleman now in Poland, M. Jouy, has invented a new shoe for horses, for which, it is said, the Emperor of Russia has given him a reward of 50,000 roubles and a patent.

Miscellaneous Receipts.

Jerusalem Artichokes. They must be neatly peeled, and boiled very gently by the side of the stove, with a little salt in the water; when done (but not too much, or they will not look well) place them on the dish, and serve with plain butter, or any other sauce you please.

Jerusalem Artichokes, to fricasee. Wash and scrape or pare them; boil them in milk and water till they are soft, which will be from a quarter to half an hour. Take them out and stew them a few minutes in the following sauce:—Roll a bit of butter, the size of a walnut, in flour, mix it with half a pint of cream or milk; season it with pepper, salt, and grated nutmeg. They may be served plain boiled with a little melted butter poured over them.

Sour Krout. The best cabbage for this purpose is the drum or white Strasburgh, and it should not be used till it has endured some severe frost; the stocks are then cut into halves, and shred down as fine as possible with a knife, or more properly with a plane made in the form of a cucumber slice. Burn a little juniper in a cask or tub which is perfectly sound and clean, and put a little leaven into the seam round the bottom,—flour and vinegar may be substituted for the leaven; then put in three or four handfuls of cabbage a good sprinkling of salt, and a teaspoonful of caraway seed, and press this hard with a wooden mallet; next add another layer of cabbage, with salt and caraway seed, as at first; and so on in the same manner until the cask be full, pressing down each layer firmly as you advance. A good deal of water will come to the top, of which a part may be taken off. The cask being full, put on the head so as to press upon the cabbage, and place it in a warm cellar to ferment; when it has worked well for three weeks, take off the scum which will have gathered on the top, and lay a clean cloth on the krout; replace the head, and put two or three heavy stones upon it. The juice should always stand upon the top. Thus in a good cellar it will keep for years. When to be dressed, it is boiled for five or six hours in water, or stewed with a little gravy, and may be also substituted for a crust over a beef-steak pie, when cheese is grated over it.

Potatoes. Instead of drying them in the sun, "it were better," says the late Judge Buel, "the sun should never shine upon them." They should be housed with all the dirt that adheres to them, with more added; and kept covered in a cool cellar, in such way that but a little atmosphere as possible will get to them. Their surface should be kept moist, and they are never too cool when above the freezing point.

Parsnips and carrots. According to Mr. Mahon, should be put up in sand, or otherwise, so as to keep them as dry and as free from frost as possible. They should be well dried before packing. In this latitude, parsnips are frequently suffered to stand in the ground where they grew all winter, and they remain sound and sweet.

A Corn Meal Rusk.—Among the many delicacies in the form of bread, which render the employment of breakfast so acceptable, we know of none more deserving than the one prepared according to the following recipe. Take 6 cupsful of corn meal; 4 of wheat flour, 2 cupsful of molasses and two table spoonsful of saleratus, mix the whole together and knead into dough, then make two cakes; bake them as you would pone, for three-fourths of an hour, and you will have one of the most grateful descriptions of bread that ever graced the table.—*Farmer and Gardener*.

Men, because of Speech, have the advantage over beasts; but brutes are preferable to men whose language is indecent.



AGRICULTURAL.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

I have been repeatedly requested to write the history of the Berkshire breed of swine—to present to the public the identity, statistics, habits, qualities and properties of the animal; and I now attempt a performance of that duty from a knowledge that the public are liable to imposition from the efforts of the unprincipled, who are willing to sacrifice the agricultural interest of the country at the shrine of avarice.

For instance, the drover collects his heterogeneous swarms of animals midway of the State, comprising every form from the *Alligator* to the *Snapping Turtle*, as they were represented in the columns of the *Cultivator*. Passing through Albany, by the time he reaches Hancock mountains, his drove becomes full blooded Berkshires. Though they may comprise in color all the tints of the rainbow, yet each is the infallible mark of the thorough breed, so that by the time he reaches Boston, he has purchased them from my yard; and of this fact the reckless speculator hesitates not to show my certificate! All this passes well with the simple and the unsophisticated, on whom its effects are seen in the quaint assertion that, "our folks have tried the Berkshires, and they are no better than other hogs." Hundreds of times has this story been repeated to me by persons who have never seen a Berkshire nor even a fraction of one.

But what shall we say of the wealthy, influential citizen armed with science, and who can discourse eloquently upon the merits of animals, who with the fascinations of apparent indifference and disinterestedness, palms off his white, half black and white counterfeits at enormous prices!

Some have traced the genealogy of their pigs to Noah's ark, and found them to be "the exact counterparts of the two" saved in that vast menagerie. And others, I presume, have traced their stocks to the garden of Eden (as one can be as easily traced as the other) and may thus explain the purity of their white Berkshires—white being an emblem of innocence, although I have never conceived white to be an emblem of Berkshire pigs, save in their extremities.

A speculator in the western part of this State is figuring largely before the public with what he is pleased to christen "Improved berkshire pigs."—Of this mushroom breed I know nothing more than can be learned from the puffs of their master. The berkshire pigs brought to this country in the spring of 1832 by Sida Hawes, Esq., a retired English gentleman who purchased Judge Spencer's seat three miles from Albany, N. Y. are animals that have never had or needed any such adverb.

Mr. Hawes, associated with several other gentlemen in and about Reading, Berkshire county, England, had, by a series of unwearied experiments and investigations for upwards of twenty years previous to his coming to this country, brought the full blooded Berkshire to become the proud, noble animal he now appears, as he waddles forth superior in symmetry, and himself conscious of the admiration he every where excites: he exists as the noble monument of what the plastic hand of cultivation can effect upon that otherwise uncouth, filthy and devouring cannibal—an improvement made not by mercenary speculators, but by men of ample fortunes, whose only object has been to promote the great and vital interests of agriculture as the firm base for the general prosperity and happiness of man.

I was the first to procure the breed of Berkshires from Mr. Hawes in 1832. These pigs soon attracted general admiration. In 1834 and '35 they were first introduced to Ohio and Kentucky; and since that period I have sent more or less of them to every State in the Union. I understand that they took premiums in many counties of the two first named States last autumn. There the full bloods have been obtained and continued without alloy. They have not been let to run out by breeding with those near akin; nor have they been let to run with other hogs, of whom they will soon imitate their habits, and ultimately degenerate to a point of equilibrium between the two. In those States I have never heard of but one expression, and that of unqualified approbation.

Mr. Hawes' family becoming discontented in this

country, he returned with them to England in 1838, and he has been over once since. Through his agency I have procured five fresh importations of the animal since 1832—the last in the fall of 1839.

COLOR. The Berkshire pigs imported as above are principally black, with the ends of the hairs tinged with red or brown, giving them a beautiful brilliant changeable appearance in the sun, something like velvet of that color.

Mr. Hawes informed me that he had never known a full blood to have less than three white feet, some white in the face or end of the nose, and occasionally white hair interspersed over the whole surface: the end of the tail invariably white. There is, however occasionally a slight variation from the aforesaid color. Some are much less brilliant with sandy coats and hair slightly inclined to curl.

Pigs were imported from Berkshire forty years ago of nearly the same description of color, but far inferior in point of rotundity and other essential points of symmetry.

All the stock procured from Mr. Hawes which I have bred, and all the full bloods procured through another channel, have been essentially the same in point of color.

Four years ago I saw a boar that the owner informed me he had purchased from on board a ship for a full blood. His form and color were right.—Being anxious to get a fresh cross, I took Mr. Hawes to look at him: he also thought his appearance was right. As a test he said I might put him to one of my full blood sows, which I did. At the litter, two of her pigs were entirely black—three all white—the balance Berkshires. Mr. Hawes pronounced him a counterfeit.

I have been much surprised at the attempts which have been made through the columns of the *Albany Cultivator* to break down color as a test.—One asserts he has been credibly informed that this breed in England has as much white as black, and that the color imported by Mr. Hawes was merely accidental. Another extensive speculator informed me, as an apology for full bloods of any color, that it was from a particular method of breeding them in England. I should very much question the ability of peeled sticks to produce the effect they might have had on Jacob's cattle.

There is an imported sow in the vicinity of Albany all white, and there are three others of different strains of about as much white as black. Two of these I have seen: and from their general appearance I should call them counterfeits.

I am informed that a planter from Kentucky purchased a male from a gentleman on Long Island entirely white from a stock he had imported for Berkshires. This male stands in that State at high prices.

I have seen one bred in Albany seven eighths Berkshire, purely white, retaining all the Berkshire points. Such will run immediately into the old stock.

I have never met with a pure black Berkshire pig, though there are many advocates for them before the public. I saw an Englishman last year about fifty years of age, who was emigrating to Upper Canada, who had Durham cattle, some sheep and two pigs. The color of his pigs agreed with that of Mr. Hawes' importation. He informed me that it was the only standard color for the full bloods, and that it was extremely difficult if not impossible for a stranger to get full bloods. He pronounced mine pure and very superior.

I fear that our advocates for new strains will soon strain the full bloods from the country, or at least overrun it with a spurious mixed breed at the expense of the pure.

We have several other gentlemen residing in this vicinity, formerly of Berkshire, England who also testify that the different importations of Mr. Hawes agree with the full bloods of England in point of color.

All these circumstances combine to make it astonishing to me that the color of all the pigs brought and sent to this country at five different periods during the last eight years should "happen" to be within a few shades of the same color.

I have observed that in a few generations as the pigs recede from the originals, they lose something of the bright glossy appearance or lustre that distinguishes the imported ones, and a slight change to something lighter. This I attribute to their leaving the humid atmosphere of England for the dry clear air of the interior of our country.

It is evidently the interest of those who have high priced pigs of different strains from entire white to entire black to destroy the well known and long established color of the pure kind in order to sell their spurious articles at high prices; but in my opinion it would be as easy to introduce all white or black leopards. Any gentleman purchasing pigs as Berkshires of any other

color than above stated, I think may have just reason to suspect their blood. I would advise purchasers in general who are paying high prices to be a little particular in ascertaining their pedigree, and also to be on their guard against imposition in relation to their being imported. I could mention a number of instances where fine looking pigs raised in this city going west have had the degree of "imported" summarily conferred on them at Buffalo. Let the vender produce at least his bill of lading, or some other document more than mere assertion: and if he proves that they have actually crossed the water, let him give you some proof that they were selected by competent persons. I think a little attention to these points would have a salutary effect in frustrating the ends of imposition.

Objections have been made to the Berkshires on account of the supposed black rind: this objection is without foundation. After a good scale a black scurf or outer coating of the skin comes off, leaving a rind not much thicker than paper, much more white and delicate than that of any other swine. The pork is sweeter, and the hams much better than those of the old kind of hogs.

SIZE.—Full grown Berkshires are of all sizes from one thousand pounds downwards. The reason why there are so many varying sizes is this: Gentlemen in England wishing to have small ones for family use have selected the smallest of litters for breeders, and procured purposely a smaller stock, whilst others preferring the large size have used the means *vice versa*, and run their stocks up to an almost incredible size. This may be done at pleasure.

In the autumn of 1838 Mr. Hawes brought me one female and two males unrelated to each other, and also to those of the former importations—one from the town of Newbury, one from Teal and the other from Reading in Berkshire county, England. These I procured expressly for a new cross. Their color was the same as the others, with points materially agreeing. In consequence of some complaints about size, Mr. Hawes selected the males from very large animals: one of them at fifteen months old measured from end of snout to root of tail six feet five inches, and girthed five feet six inches in common condition: the other two months younger, is nearly the same size. I challenge the United States to produce two animals of their species of color different from that I have named as a standard color for Berkshires, which will compare at their age with these two in point of size or beauty. I have been offered two hundred dollars for the oldest by Mr. Munson Beach of Ohio.

I have a sow purchased from the Shakers of Watervliet, Albany county, at \$150, raised by Mr. Hawes, measuring from end of nose to root of tail, six feet and ten inches, and girthing five feet ten inches, in breeding order.

The Shakers of Watervliet slaughtered fifteen full bloods last fall consisting entirely of runts and emplings of litters, from fifteen to seventeen months old. Their average weight was three hundred and fifty-six pounds. One slaughtered at the Shaker village at New Lebanon two years and a half old, weighed, as was judged, between seven and eight hundred pounds. Mr. Shaw of Rensselaer county, N. Y. slaughtered one two years old that weighed five hundred and fifty-six pounds. I slaughtered one at sixteen months old that weighed four hundred pounds. I sold one to Mr. Cord of Lexington, Kentucky, which he advertised as the "Master;" he is supposed by good judges to weigh one thousand pounds. Munson Beach, Esq. of Ohio, has written me that there had been great numbers slaughtered in that State, half and three quarters bloods, from seventeen to eighteen months old, weighing from four hundred and fifty to five hundred pounds. Mr. Hawes informed me that it was very common for Berkshires to weigh in England eight hundred pounds and upwards.

HABITS.—The habits of these animals are much more mild and docile than those of other kinds of the great swinish family—their ferocity is surprisingly softened down. I have never known a sow to eat her pigs—an event that often occurs with other swine. They come to maturity much sooner than the old stock. They are extremely prolific, bearing from ten to fifteen to a litter, and are almost sure to raise the whole. Some of my neighbors have raised twenty-five pigs per annum for succeeding years.

When two of these animals of nearly equal size are put together, a desperate conflict will immediately ensue: this will be decided once for all, and the two will not fight a second time. These pigs, if fed at stated periods precisely (as they are much more accurate observers of time than most of our wooden clocks) will finish the meal and return to their nests, where they will meditate as gravely and profoundly as judges.

The Berkshires improve every breed by crossing. They give length and solidity to the little Chinas, con-

verting that part of the belly which formerly went to lard into strata of lean and solid pork. They give rotundity and beauty to the old razor backs, inspiring life and vigor through their comparatively dry bones. The sows will often take the boar within three days after the pigs have all been removed, which should not be neglected, as a few frustrations will sometimes prevent the sow from taking the boar at all.

The young Berkshire pig I esteem as one of the most beautiful objects in the animal creation. As he gambols in the sun, his sleek skin distended almost to bursting, as if unable longer to form a barrier against the genial streams of life, as they course through the miniature veins impatient to swell into the future monster; he is endowed with an instinct falling but little short of reason, and in some respects far exceeding it.

FEEDING.—This should be done with judgment and system. I feed my swine three times a day at stated periods, which they well know to a moment; and as they expect no feed between meals, they will remain perfectly quiet. They will thrive better in this way than on twice the quantity of food given promiscuously, giving them a continual worry. My practice is to put water with their food in such quantity as to compel them to drink for the feed. The tendency of such feeding is to make the swine lay quiet until the next feeding.

BREEDING TIME FOR SOWS.—I never interfere with the course of nature in admitting the sows to the proper season, viz: Spring or Fall. I have abandoned the long standing opinion that sows never reach their full size for being impregnated young. When the young sow shall not have reached her full strength and maturity, nature which is a great economist in this as in all other things, will diminish the number of pigs accordingly. I raised a sow which measured seven feet from end of nose to root of tail, and girth six feet; and she had her first litter at the age of eleven months, and bore eight pigs. For experiment a gentleman took two sow pigs of the same litter of equal size and vigor. One was impregnated at the age of six months—the other at eighteen months—each having their regular semi-annual litters. At the end of three years the six months sow was the largest and by far the best milker and breeder. I have known a number of similar results.

Sows should be kept quiet after pregnancy, with room for exercise and free air and water: they should be separated to prevent crowding or fighting. A clover pasture, without disturbance from dogs or other animals, would be preferable. They should be neither over-fed nor starved; for by the one you may lose the pigs, and by the latter you will have a swarm of ravenous cannibals, which is about as bad as a total loss. Never admit the boar to a sow when she is in a heated state from driving or worrying.

THE BOAR.—The service of the male will be equally good and efficient, and the pigs will attain to their full size, although he may not have gained half his full grown size. He should not be admitted to many sows at first, or at any time, as in this case nature will become her own executioner. The boar should never go to the sow in a warm day, till he shall cool himself in a puddle of water, which he is sure to do if there shall be one in his yard. I have known instances where neglect of this precaution has proved fatal to the boar. Not having such a reservoir in my yard, I am in the practice of throwing a pail or two of water over them in hot weather. Having done this a few times, when I let the boars out, they would come and lie down to receive the water before they would notice the sow.

I would observe that I received in October last, per the brig Henry Bell, from Reading, Berkshire, England, for a fresh cross, two males and two females, with colors agreeing with my former stock, entirely unconnected with each other, and also with my former breed. One boar I sent to Munson Beach, Esq. of Lebanon, Ohio—one of the sows is in the possession of my neighbor, Z. Standish, Esq. who has a number of my former stock, and will be able to supply his friends abroad with some fine specimens of the these animals last season, that I have been at much pains and expense in preparing to meet it again. Gentlemen abroad desiring to obtain them would do well to make an early application to me at No. 253 Washington street Albany, N. Y.

JOHN LOSSING.

P. S. The Shakers of Watervliet have a number of fine breeding sows which have been put to my imported boars. Their piggery, for characteristic neatness, decorum, regularity and economy, is surpassed by none in the world.—*Farmer's Monthly Visitor*.

AGRICULTURE AS A SCIENCE.

All knowledge is founded on experience; in the infancy of any art, experience is confined, and knowl-

edge limited to a few particulars; but as arts are improved and extended, a great number of facts become known, and the generalization of these, or the arrangement of them according to some leading principles, constitutes the theory, laws, or science of an art.

Agriculture, in common with other arts, may be practised without any knowledge of its theory; that is established practices may be imitated; but in this case it must ever remain stationary. The mere routine practitioner cannot advance beyond the limits of his own particular experience, and neither derive instruction from such accidents as are favorable to his object, nor guard against a recurrence of such as are unfavorable. He can have no resource for unseen events but ordinary expedients, while the man of science resorts to general principles—refers events to their true causes, and adopts his measures to meet every case.

The object of the art of agriculture is to increase the quantity and improve the quality of such vegetable and animal productions of the earth as are used by civilized men; and the object of the agriculturist is to do this with the least expenditure of means, in other words, profit. The result of the experience of mankind as to other objects may be conveyed to an inquiring mind in two ways: he may be instructed in the practical operations of the art, and their theory, or the reasons on which they are founded, laid down and explained to him as he goes along, or he may be first instructed in general principles, and then in the practices which flow from them.

The former mode is the natural and actual mode in which every art is acquired by such as have no resource to books, and may be compared to the natural mode of acquiring a language without the study of its grammar. The latter mode is by much the more correct and effectual, and is calculated to enable the instructed agriculturist to proceed with the same kind of confidence and satisfaction in his practice, that a grammarian does in the use of language.—*Practical Farmer*.

THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

A society with this title has been formed "for the purpose of promoting a general diffusion of useful knowledge through the medium of Periodicals, Publications, Books, Lectures, Scientific Apparatus, Cabinets of Minerals," &c.

We have neglected to publish any account of it, desiring to understand more fully its designs, and the probable success of its plans of operation. We are satisfied that its organization is such as to deserve public confidence, and that its plans are adapted to our necessities.

The design is to secure in each town and village a society, of ten or more individuals, who will pay THREE DOLLARS each, annually, to be expended in periodicals, books, apparatus, lectures, &c. as the members by vote, shall direct.

These societies are furnished by the National Society with such materials as they order to the full amount of their subscriptions, and become auxiliary to that society by a representation of the auxiliary at the annual meeting.

The government of the parent society is vested in the *Presidents of Auxiliaries*, who annually assemble in New York during the Anniversary season, give reports of their auxiliaries, elect the officers of the parent or central society and make such additions and improvements in the management of the affairs of the society as their united wisdom may suggest. A number of the Literary Advertiser before us gives a list of more than one hundred and thirty auxiliaries already formed, chiefly in the State of New York but some of them in the several New England states.

One interesting feature of this organization is that it has been effected without noise or parade, but by a silent persevering application of the true working talent which thus places within the reach of a circle of readers in each village a wide range of knowledge, at a trifling expense. The various features of the plan may be simultaneously or successively adopted as circumstances may dictate. We may specify them more distinctly in the following order.

1. A library of Reviews and Magazines. These may be selected from a list of nearly all the Quarterly and Monthly Reviews and Magazines published in this country, of which the list contains between 60 and 70. The American reprints of English works of which there are 10 or 12. The Foreign Periodicals imported of which there are nearly 40.

2. LECTURES.—The society furnish their auxiliaries when desired with lectures delivered in New York and other cities, to be read in the meetings of the associa-

tion. A copy of each of these can be furnished to auxiliaries for the sum of \$3 a year.

3. PHILOSOPHICAL APPARATUS.—This will be furnished to auxiliaries at cost when ordered, so that the principles of science can be illustrated as circumstances may dictate.

4. CABINETS OF MINERALS.—Cases containing 49 specimens of Minerals are furnished for \$3, or in a Mahogany case for \$5.

5. SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARIES.—Fifty volumes in a neat case with lock and key are furnished for \$20. The volumes are such as are sanctioned by the Superintendent of Public schools in the State of New York. If preferred the library of the Sunday school or Tract society is furnished. Auxiliaries might do much to awaken an interest and introduce the school library into the several districts in town.

The following is the form of constitution for auxiliaries, ordinarily adopted.

ART. I. The undersigned inhabitants of this village and vicinity in view of the great advantages to be derived from a library of Periodicals, do hereby associate ourselves together for this purpose, and obligate ourselves, respectively, to pay three dollars for one year, provided as many as ten or more members can be obtained. The money to be paid in advance.

ART. II. This society shall be known as the ——— its supervision shall be under the direction of a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian, who shall be chosen annually. The duties generally devolving upon such officers shall be respectively discharged by them, subject to these rules or such as a majority of the society shall create, at a meeting of which at least one week's notice shall be given to all its members.

ART. III. The Magazines and Books, are to be selected and deposited at such place as a majority of the Society shall designate, and its members shall be allowed to draw one number or volume, and to retain it one week, when it must be returned prior to another. —per day shall be required of members keeping magazines longer than the specified time.

ART. IV. At the close of each year from the formation of the society, a meeting shall be held to take into consideration the propriety of disposing of the Periodicals, by sale at auction, and dividing the funds amongst the members, or in any other way the society may deem proper.

ART. V. Members and their families shall have free admission to any lectures which may be delivered or read before the society and the public.

ART. VI. This society shall be auxiliary to the National society of Literature and Science, agreeably to the Constitution of which the Presidents of Auxiliaries become ex-officio members thereof, and whose duty it shall be to represent this Association at the annual meeting of the parent society.

The following is the list of officers of the Parent Society.

HON. THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, President, Chancellor of the University of New York.

ABRAHAM PETERS, D. D. }
C. S. HENRY, D. D. }
PROF. B. SEARS, } Vice Presidents.
SAM'L LUCKEY, D. D. }
T. E. VERMILYEA, D. D. }

THOMAS DELF, Corresponding Sec'y.

LUCIAN J. BISSEK, Rec. Sec'y.

THEODORE FOSTER, Gen'l Agent.

ERSKINE MASON, D. D. }
REV. E. G. SMITH, }
REV. ASA D. SMITH, } Directors.
THEODORE FOSTER, }
CHARLES A. LEE, M. D. }
REV. JOHN M. KREBS. }

The organization and objects of this society are thus distinctly indicated in the hope of calling attention to its claims, and extending its operations in the State.

Will Editors who may think the subject worthy of attention make their readers acquainted with the facts here communicated?

CONFESSIONS OF A SCHOOL MASTER.

Gould, Newman & Saxton, New York & Andover.

This is a work of some interest, unfolding as it does the experience, the errors, and improvements of a country schoolmaster. It is fitted to revive many recollections in those who were pursuing the same vocation some 10 or 15 years since. Many valuable hints may be derived from it for the benefit of those who are now in the profession, and it may well find a place in the teacher's library. As the season approaches for the winter schools to commence, we commend such works as this—the Teacher by Jacob Abbott—the School Master's Friend, by Theodore Dwight Jr., and the Lectures on School keeping, by Samuel R. Hall, the pioneer in works of this description, to the attention of teachers. The Confessions of a School Master are ascribed to Dr. Wm. A. Alcott who writes books quite rapidly, but has published many good thoughts on various subjects.

GEOLOGY—TRAP DYKES.

We have just been to examine a singular exhibition of the green stone trap dykes in Falmouth. Near the F. W. Baptist meeting house is an old mill on a stream which empties into the Presumpscot river. On the western shore of the stream above the bridge are eleven dykes in the immediate vicinity of each other, all within a distance of four or five rods, and of all sizes from one inch to three feet in width. These traverse the gneiss rocks nearly in the direction of N. E. and S. W. and some of them are exposed for 60 or 70 feet. Several of these intersect a vein of quartz about 6 or 8 inches in width interspersed with tourmaline crossing it at an angle of about 40 degrees. At each crossing the vein of quartz is severed as is the primary rock in which it is enclosed with a smooth fracture in that diagonal direction, and the whole mass seems to be thrown off so as to remove the vein of quartz from its proper line a distance proportioned to the width of the trap dyke. In one place, the offset is between two and three feet. Was this vein of quartz thrown up through the rock, or was it formed thus originally? If thrown up in a molten state at how early a period? Were these trap dykes thrown up at a later period? If so at what period probably? If the trap dykes were thrown up in a molten state why are they not often found overlapping the primary rocks? Will Dr. Holmes append answers to any of these enquiries, and oblige many readers.

SUMMARY.

The New Orleans Bee says, 'the physicians find it most obstinately and uncomfortably healthy. There is not sickness enough in New Orleans to furnish a case piece for the faculty. Never have we passed a more salubrious summer. Absentees may return in perfect safety.'

As an instance of the rapid rate at which intelligence is conveyed in these railroad and steamboat days, it may be mentioned that the foreign news brought by the Caledonia, which arrived here on Saturday morning, was published simultaneously in the Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Hartford, and New Haven morning papers of Monday.

Lord Falkland, the new Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, has a salary of 5 000 sterling.

There will be six eclipses next year—four of the sun, invisible—and two of the moon, both total and visible in this country. One takes place on the 5th of February; the other on the 2d of August.

The Proclamation of the Union of the two Canadas is to be issued on the 1st of January, 1841, and the elections under the new constitution will take place on the following month.

A new item in trade is announced in the Baltimore American in that market, from Chester county, Pa. by way of the Tide Water Canal. It is kiln dried oatmeal, manufactured with great care for family use, and retails at \$7 per barrel.

The tobacco planters intend to hold a Convention in Washington City, on the 15th of next December.

Shipbuilders are now classed among the light literature of the day, at the South.

A Paris paper asserts that a Convention has been agreed upon between the French and English Governments, that in case of war between the two countries, steamboats of either nation conveying passengers or mails are to be considered as neutrals. Such a treaty ought to be made between our own government and that of Great Britain.

The Middlesex Agricultural Exhibition at Concord, on Wednesday, went off with great eclat. The show of stock was particularly fine—and some of the vegetables were of a glorious size. One squash, from Lincoln, weighed 157 pounds. The address, by E. R. Hour, of Concord, was a production of much merit.

Bradbury Forgeana, of Exeter, N. H. murdered his wife on Thursday evening. He returned from a militia muster at Epping, in a state of intoxication, and shot her in consequence of a quarrel. He has fled from justice, and is described as being six feet high, and stout built, having curly hair, one of his hands injured by a wound, and on one arm the initials "B. F." marked with India ink.

The Baltimore Sun states that two peace officers in that city, finding a mob of boys abusing a couple of women, made an onslaught and drove off the boys. When they had fully succeeded in this, the women turned to and stoned them; injuring one of the officers so much that he is confined to his house.

Extraordinary Product.—Mr. Jonathan Reed, of Shrewsbury has fifty-one citron melons, which were raised from a single seed; the whole weight of which is three hundred and fifty-five pounds.

The Philadelphia Ledger has given to Cincinnati the name of Piggolia.

A Philadelphia fireman has been held to bail in the sum of \$500 for fighting while returning from a fire.

Commerce of Boston. The number of foreign arrivals

from January 1, to September 30, 1840, was 1248—the number of foreign arrivals during the corresponding time of the last year, was 1174. Increase 78. The number of foreign clearances from January 1, to September 30, 1840, 1028—during the same time of the last year 1055.—Post.

An Anti-Slavery Sugar company has been formed in London for the cultivation of sugar, rum, &c., by free labor in British India.

It is stated as a curious fact, that Mehemet Ali, Napoleon Bonaparte, and the Duke of Wellington were all born in the same year.

Snow in Quebec.—The Quebec Canadian states that on the 22d ult. the weather was very cold, and that the mountains to the north of that city, were covered with snow.

Flour.—The Troy Mail says Flour is coming down the canal at a great rate, over 570,000 barrels having already reached New York, via the Hudson.

We learn, says the Journal of Commerce, by the ship Asia, from Canton, that while at St. Helena, the British brig of war Brisk arrived there with three Portuguese vessels, the Adrina, Coringa, and Montevideo, as prizes, taken on the coast of Africa in May last, engaged in the slave trade. They were ordered by the Vice Admiralty Court at St. Helena to be broken up and sold.

The Commerce of Africa.—The trade of Africa is beginning to be looked upon as quite important. It is stated, on competent authority, that of the single article of palm oil, the value of over \$7,000,000, has been imported into England from Africa in a single year. Camphor wood, which is worth \$90 per ton, can be obtained in Liberia. A letter in the Merchants' Magazine states, that as soon as roads are cut into the interior, ivory, gold-dust, and many other valuable articles, may be obtained in abundance for the purpose of trade and traffic.—Pittsburg Intelligencer.

Ancient Pear Trees.—There is a pear tree in Danvers, Mass., planted in 1628, by Gov. Endicott, which is yet in full life, and produced a good crop of pears this year. In Eastham, on Cape Cod, is another pear tree planted in 1640, by Gov. Prince. It is still flourishing, and produces fifteen bushels a year. Two pear trees were recently standing in Hartford, Conn. which were brought from England in 1635.

Steam Boat Accident.—The steamboat Swiftsure of New York, burst one of her boilers on Monday, when about eight miles from Albany, and scalded five persons belonging to the boat. The cause of the accident is yet unknown. The Swiftsure had recently been furnished with new boilers of the strongest description, and works but a moderate degree of pressure.

Sugar.—A London paper states that a larger quantity of sugar will be exported from Calcutta to England this year than has ever been recorded before. It will amount to 40,000 tons at least; and in a few years, it is said, this quantity will be doubled, for the capabilities of the country are boundless.

The late Dr. Willis, celebrated for his effective treatment of insanity, used to assert that he owed a great proportion of his patients to the inordinate use of tea.

The brig Temperance, recently arrived in Boston from Holland, with 140 pipes of gin and two chests of opium.

A shoemaker in England has been imprisoned two years for his church rates, amounting to 4s 6d: the cost amounts to \$80!!

The Methodists of Mississippi have resolved on establishing the Centenary College of the Mississippi Conference, at Clinton, in that State.

Mr. Isaiah Furber, (an insane person) who has been confined in jail for the last 14 months, was found dead in his room on Wednesday morning last. A coroner's jury was immediately called, who returned a verdict that he came to his death by poison. On examining his trunk, a ball of opium was found, and the Jailor since his death, has ascertained that he was in the habit of eating opium.—Bangor Courier.

SINGAPORE, 9th May, 1840.

No American vessels, and nothing from you for months. The Lima sailed for China on the 3d instant.

The English naval and military forces are assembling here, but will not probably be ready to move up the China Sea before the beginning of July. Ad'l Elliott, from the Cape Station, is expected daily.—Nothing has yet transpired as to the mode of proceeding after the arrival of the troops in the Chinese waters. Every thing remained quiet at Macao and Canton three weeks since. Teas, silks, &c. were scarce and high.—Journal of Com.

The editor of the Cincinnati Republican estimates the population of the western and southwestern states at the present time to be 7,360,000, or within 640,000, of the one half estimated population of the United States.

The French commissioner on colonial affairs, of which the Duke de Broglie is President, has come to an unanimous resolution that slavery ought to be entirely abolished, and the total emancipation of the blacks in the French colonies ought to be effected. Three questions are to be submitted to the high functionaries in the several colonies:—1. Whether the emancipation should be according to the English mode? 2. Whether it should be accomplished after a fixed period, either of 10 years without an indemnity?—3. Whether it should be according to the system proposed by M. de Tocqueville? The commission has adjourned till January next, by which time it is expected that the answers from the colonies will have reached Paris. The delegates from the colonies to the capital refused to appear before the commission, or to afford any information, intrinsically themselves behind the law of 1833 relating to the colonies.—Galignani's Mess.

INCREASE.—We are informed by Rev. J. Stinson, just returned from England, that the increase in the Methodist societies under the care of the British conference for the last year is 24,000.—Adv. & Jour.

HISTORY.—We might be taught many useful lessons from history, were we disposed to learn from it. But the light which experience gives, is like a lantern on the stern of a boat, which shines only on the waves behind it.

Married.

In New Sharon, on the 1st inst. Mr Daniel C. Luce, to Miss Lucy Ann Lake.

In Thomaston, Mr Leonard C. Stetson, to Miss Sarah M. Sprague both of T. Mr Benjamin W. Fales of Thomaston, to Mrs. Hannah McKellar of St. George.

DIED.

In Monroe, Mr John B. Nealy, the Democratic candidate for Elector, in Waldo county.

In Sidney, Sept. 29, Mrs. Clarinda Heath, aged 29 years.

In Woolwich, Mr Ebenezer Savage, 87.
In Tuscaloosa, Ala. 15th ult. of bilious fever, Mr Charles G. Tibbets, 25, a native of Eastport, Me.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Oct. 4, 1840.
(From the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.)

At market 1025 Beef Cattle, 640 stores, 3500 sheep, and 1125 swine.

Prices.—Beef Cattle.—The prices obtained last week were hardly sustained. We quote first quality \$5.50 a 5.75; second quality 5 a 5.25; third quality 3.75 a 4.75.

Barrelling Cattle.—Several lots of Cattle were purchased for barrelling at \$5 for Mess, and \$4 for No. 1.

Stores.—Former prices were sustained, and we reduce our quotations. Yearlings \$6 a 9; two year old, \$12 a 18; three year old \$21 a 27.

Sheep.—Lots sold for \$1.33, 1.50, 1.50, 1.67, 1.84, \$2, 2.25, 2.50, and 2.75.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

Oct. 11	Thermom.	Barometer.	Weather.	Wind.
9.	52 48 48	29.75 29.85 29.85	F. F. F.	N. N. N.
10.	38 43 47	29.90 29.90 29.80	F. F. F.	SNW ENE.
11.	41 50 48	29.60 29.45 29.30	C. C. R.	S. S.
12.	54 56 50	29.05 29.10 29.20	F. F. F.	S. S. W.
13.	40 46 48	29.40 29.5 29.45	F. F. F.	SNW. W.
14.	42 58 53	29.40 29.35 29.40	F. F. F.	W. W.
15.	43 48 46	29.55 29.55 29.60	F. F. F.	WNW. SW.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, a noon, and at sunset.

s. Shower between observations.
The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Winthrop Lyceum.

A meeting of the Winthrop Lyceum will be held at the Masonic Hall in this Village, on Tuesday evening next, at half past 6 o'clock.

Question for discussion.—"Which has the greatest influence, Wealth or Education?"

Ladies and Gentlemen are respectfully invited to attend.
Winthrop, Oct. 15, 1840.

Superior Ploughs for Sale.

A NEW and extensive assortment of the celebrated Ploughs, manufactured by Ruggles, Nourse & Mason, has been received. They are offered for sale at low prices and on accommodating terms.

Persons desirous of purchasing GOOD PLOUGHS are requested to call and examine for themselves.

NOYES & ROBBINS.

Berkshire Pigs.

FULL Bloods and Half Bloods, from ten days to 5 months old, for sale by Dr. NOURSE of Hallowell. Oct. 10th 1840.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator with the will annexed of all and singular the goods and Estate which were of BENJA. QUIMBY, late of Greene, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ELIJAH BARRELL, Adm'r.

Greene, Aug. 3, 1840.

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of September, A. D. 1840. AUGUSTUS SPRAGUE, Administrator of the Estate of MOSES SPRAGUE, late of Greene in said county, deceased, having presented his first account of Administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance:

Ordered, That the said Administrator give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the last Monday of November, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register.

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of September, A. D. 1840. MOSES H. METCALF, Guardian of JEREMIAH BROWN, of Winthrop, in said county, having presented his account of Guardianship for allowance:

Ordered, That the said Guardian give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the 2d Monday of November, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register.

Machine Shop and Iron Foundry.

HOLMES & ROBBINS would inform the public that they continue to carry on the MACHINE MAKING BUSINESS as usual, at the Village in GARDINER, where they will be in readiness at all times to accommodate those who may favor them with their custom. They have an IRON FOUNDRY connected with the Machine Shop, where persons can have almost every kind of Casting made at short notice. Persons wishing for Mill work or Castings for Mills, will find it particularly to their advantage to call, as the assortment of Patterns for that kind of work is very extensive and as good as can be found in any place whatever.

Castings of various kinds kept constantly on hand—such as Cart and Wagon Hubs of all sizes, Fire-Frames, Oven, Ash and Boiler Mouths, Cart and Wagon Boxes, Gears of different kinds and sizes, &c. &c.

All orders for Machinery or Castings executed on the most reasonable terms, without delay.

Repairing done as usual.

Gardiner, March 21, 1840.

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LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Post Office at Winthrop, October 1, 1840.

Alden, Austin	Nelson, David O.
Briggs, E. P.	Noise, C.
Chandler, Cyrus C.	Richardson, Thomas
Dearbon, George H.	Stevens, Thurston W.
Fairbanks, Levi Jr.	Stevens, Catharine
Goodale, Eliza	Stevens, Mary R.
Gerrish, Nathaniel	Sampson, Abigail
Hanniford, Josiah	Tinkham, Hannah W.
Hent, Caleb	Trufant, Joshua
Jenness, Sarah	Tapley, Cyrus F.
Kimball, Joseph	Whiting, Elias
Lancaster, Mary	White, Joel
Low, Daniel	Williams, Eunice
Monk, Thomas	Whittier, Josiah
Maxwell, John	York, Hannah
Millet, Asa	

DAVID STANLEY, P. M

A GENTLE CALL.

We are aware that the times are uncommonly hard, business dull, and very little money circulating, and that it is bad enough to suffer the pinch of the times, without being dunned. But there are many of our subscribers owing us who always have a little money on hand, and can spare it as well now as at any other time. We have a pretty heavy bill becoming due soon for paper, &c. and every little will help us. Those therefore who can send us in a little will materially assist us. All we ask is enough to enable us to get along comfortably till business is more brisk and cash more plenty.

NOYES & ROBBINS.

Grave Stones.

THE Subscriber would inform the public that he still carries on the STONE CUTTING business near the foot of Winthrop street, a little above his old stand in Hallowell, a few doors north of T. B. Brooks' Iron Store, where he keeps as usual, beautiful lots of New York White Marble almost equal to the Italian Marble; also Thomaston Marble; Quincy and Readfield Slate of which may be found manufactured at his shop, Monuments, Tomb Tables, Grave Stones, paint mills and paint stones. Also has shops furnished with grave stones at Gardiner, Agent, Mr. Wm Gould; Readfield, Agent, Mr. John Lambard; Farmington, Ebenezer Childs, Esq.; Wilton, Mr. Joseph Bradbury. At all of his shops orders promptly attended to. Occasional visits will be made at each of these places for the purpose of engraving stones left in the care of these agents, after inscriptions are left for them. He now as in times past, pledges himself to give satisfaction in work, prices, &c. or satisfy all who call for their trouble. References can be had to his work, which may found in almost every part of the State, where it has been accumulating for fifteen years past. Much of his work has his name engraved below the inscriptions. He has also made arrangements with Col. Sullivan Dwight, owner of an extensive marble manufactory in Thomaston, to be supplied with chimney-pieces, fire frames, hearth stones, facings, &c. of beautiful Egyptian, Irish, and Thomaston Marble, in such a way as to be able to sell them cheaper than ever before. A few patterns are now set up at his shop in Hallowell. To companies who want to purchase any of the above a liberal discount will be made.

JOEL CLARK, Jr.

N. B. J. C. Jr. has a number of monuments on hand and attends to the building all kinds at short notice. 7.

SEARS GENUINE VEGETABLE PULMONARY BALSAMIC SYRUP OF LIVERWORT.

For cure of Consumptions, Coughs and Colds.

More than 75,000 bottles of this very valuable medicine has been sold, (principally in the State of Maine,) since it was first offered to the public by the original inventor and proprietor, J. B. Sears, a few years since.

It is undoubtedly superior to any other article offered to the public, as it seldom fails of giving relief where it is taken in due season.

Although the superior virtues of this medicine are well known, and its qualities highly approved by many of the most respectable of the Medical Faculty, the following certificates are added for the satisfaction of those who may be afflicted with these diseases for which it is designed, several others may be seen on the bill of directions accompanying each bottle.

The undersigned takes pleasure in mentioning the prompt and essential relief which he experienced in a severe attack on the lungs in January last, from the use of the Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort; and cheerfully testifies that in his opinion, it is a most beneficial medicine in consumptive complaints, violent colds, or settled cough, and earnestly recommends this Medicine to all who are suffering under afflictions of this kind.

Thomaston, Feb. 16, 1831.

PHILIP ULMER.

Certificate of Dr. Goodwin, an experienced Physician of Thomaston.

I do hereby certify, that I have this day examined the composition of a Medicine prepared by John B. Sears of this town, which he calls Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort, for the cure of Consumptions, Coughs, Colds, &c., and in my opinion it is superior to any Cough Drops that has come within my knowledge.

Thomaston, April 2, 1831.

JACOB GOODWIN.

The undersigned having purchased the original recipe for this syrup, has made arrangements to have Agents in the principal towns in New England supplied with it. Purchasers will be careful that the bill of directions are signed by H. Fuller or S. Page, and the name of the former stamped in the seal, and my own name written on the outside label.

T. B. MERRICK.

The following are among the Agents for selling the above Syrup; Wm C Stimpson & Co., Pratt & King, and Maynard and Noyes, Boston; J S Harrison, Salem; A Carter, Portland; Geo W Holden, Bangor; R S Blasdell, Thomaston; J E Ladd, Eben Fuller and A Hatch, Augusta; A T Perkins, Gardiner; Geo Williston, Brunswick; Dr J A Berry, Saco—& for sale by most of the stores in the county.

Freedom.

NOTICE is hereby given that for a valuable consideration, I have this day relinquished to my minor son EZRA HOLMES NORCROSS, his time until he shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years. I shall therefore neither claim any of his earnings nor pay any debts of his contracting after this date.

ELIJAH NORCROSS.

Witness: B. F. ROBBINS.

Winthrop, Sept. 23, 1840.

3w38

Caution!

WHEREAS, Cynthia, my wife left my bed and board, on the evening of the twentieth inst.; this is to forbid all persons harboring or trusting her on my account, as I shall pay no debts of her contracting after this date.

WILLIAM TORSEY.

Winthrop, Sept. 28, 1840.

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Improved Stock for sale.

I HAVE for sale, one 3-4 blood durham cow 3 years old, with calf in December next by Col. Green's imported Durham Bull, Fitz Favorite. Also one bull calf 10 months old, and one 5 months old, both 3-4 blood of Fitz's stock.

Also, a number of rams 3-4 and 1-2 blood South Down, a cross, between a full blood South Down Ram and Merino ewes, and a part of them from ewes of mixed blood Merino and Dishley. Price \$5. Four full blood merino rams the third generation from first rate imported stock. Likewise 50 fat weathers mostly of Dishley and South Down crosses, a good chance for butchers and marketmen.

Three breeding sows—1 half blood Berkshire that has raised 18 fine pigs this season—1 full Bedford 10 months old and 1, 3-4 blood Bedford 1-4 Newbury white about 14 months old.

The above stock in the opinion of a good judge as there in the State, is of superior quality—and will be sold cheap compared with prices of former years for stock of same quality. Call at my farm in Vassalboro', and examine for yourselves.

MOSES TABER.

Vassalboro', 9th mo. 20th, 1840.

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NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administratrix of all and singular the goods and estate which were of ISAAC NELSON, late of Winthrop, in the county of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ISABEL NELSON, Administratrix.

Winthrop, Sept. 8, 1840.

3w38

At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, on the last Monday of September, A. D. 1840, within and for the County of Kennebec.

A certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of Luther Robbins, Esq., late of Greene in said County, deceased, having been presented by Nathaniel Robbins the Executor therein named for Probate:

Ordered, That the said Executor give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published in the Maine Farmer printed at Winthrop in said County, three weeks successively, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta in said County on the last Monday of October next at ten o'clock, in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved, and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. *39

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the second Tuesday of September, A. D. 1840.

JAMES COFFIN, Administrator of Estate of MOSES HARRIS, late of Greene, in said county, deceased, having presented his account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance: and the Widow of said Harris having made application for an allowance out of the personal Estate of said deceased,

Ordered, That the said Adm'r give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the 2d Tuesday of November next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 38

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of September, A. D. 1840.

LIVE WEBB, widow of Samuel Webb late of Winthrop in said county, deceased, having made application for an allowance out of the personal Estate of said deceased:

Ordered, That the said widow give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer printed at Winthrop that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the last Monday of October next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register.

39

Whitman's Separator and Grain Cleanser.

THE subscriber informs the public that he has received Letters Patent for his newly invented Separator, and is prepared to accommodate purchasers at short notice.—The machine thrashes and cleanses the grain in a thorough manner at one operation. Call at his shop in Winthrop Village where may also be found first rate Horse Powers of his construction.

LUTHER WHITMAN.

Winthrop, Sept. 10, 1840.

POETRY.

LAY OF THE RAILWAY.

WITCH.

"Hie! where are you riding?" the weired sister said;
 "Hie, brother, ye hurry away!
 Doye carry a bride to the mine-demon's bed,
 And go to his revel to-day?"

STOKER.

"I hear ye not, sister," the wizard replied,
 And his iron wand thrust in the fire;
 "O'er the fields of old England her commerce I guide,
 And finger her gold for my hire."

WITCH.

"But, brother, ye travail; deep groaning I heard,
 And the clatter of fetter and glave;
 And the screams like the shriek of that ill-omen'd bird
 That sits at the mouth of my cave."

STOKER.

"In this cauldron a spirit imprison'd I have,
 Beneath him I kindle a fire;
 Ye hear from your cavern the groan that he gave,
 The snorting and screech of his ire.
 Beneath him I light a fierce fire of coke,
 He tugs and attempts to get free,
 Then onward he rushes in thunder and smoke.
 Will ye travel, old lady, with me?
 'Tis not so indecent, and fully as quick,
 As the way that ye ride in rough weather;
 So come down, old girl, from your tough bit of stick,
 And we'll sit on the tender together."

WITCH.

"O, brother, thy riding is better than mine;
 With thee over earth will I fly;
 My broom and my broomstick to thee I assign,
 With all that young spirit to try.
 And I'll fire a rick as we thunder along,
 Or cut off a man at the knee,
 Or blind with hot ashes a few of the throng
 That ride with the spirit and thee."

THE WITHERED LEAF.

Oh! mark the withered leaves that fall
 In silence on the ground;
 Upon the human heart they call,
 And preach without a sound.

They say, "so passes man's brief year!
 To-day his green leaves wave;
 To-morrow, changed by time, and sore,
 He drops into the grave."

Let wisdom be our sole concern,
 Since life's green days how brief!
 And faith and heavenly hope shall learn
 A lesson from the leaf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXTRACT.

The glory of the summer is gone by—the beautiful greenness has become withered and dead. Were this all—were there no associations of moral desolation—of faded hopes—of hearts withering in the bosoms of the living—connected with the decaying scenery around us, we would not indulge in a moment's melancholy. The season of flowers will come again—the streams will flow gracefully and lightly as before—the trees will again toss their combrous load of greenness to the sunlight—and, by mossy stone and winding rivolet, the young blossoms will start up, as at the bidding of their fairy guardians. But the human heart has no change like that of nature. It has no second spring-time.—Once blighted in its hour of freshness, it wears forever the mark of the spoiler.—The dew of affection may fall, and the gentle rain of sympathy be lavished upon it—but the sore root of blighted feeling will never waken into life—nor the crushed flowers of hope blossom with their wonted beauty.

THE SPIRIT OF POETRY.—BY MRS EMELINE S. SMITH.

When the Creator of the Universe called this world into existence, he looked around upon all he had made and pronounced it good. His eyes wandered over mountain, valley and plain, rich in their first verdant covering, and rejoicing in the bright beauty of countless fruits and flowers, the first and fairest of creation. Next turned that all-seeing eye upon the vast sublimity of ocean, with its mighty waters sparkling and dancing in the sun-beams, like conscious creatures happy in a new state of existence. Earth and ocean alike were fair, and the newly created world was beautiful; but there was one thing necessary for its entire perfection; one thing still wanting for the gratification of man. Then a subtle mysterious influence was called into existence, and breathed over all

that had been before created. It was the spirit of Poetry. Then, indeed, was the world perfect. Then mountain, vale, and stream glowed in the light of a magic loveliness, and the face of Nature wore a charm all-powerful to the mind of man!

Unchanged in its attributes—unaltered in its influences—undimmed in the brightness and purity of its first existence—the spirit of Poetry still lives and lingers upon the face of Nature. Every season, time and place, is hallowed by its presence. It gladdens the breast in the magic beauty of Spring, and the glowing loveliness of Summer. It appeals forcibly to the soul in the perishing beauties of Autumn, and cheers the spirit even amid the gloom and desolation of Winter. It laughs over the Earth in the early beams of morning—floats in the rosy clouds and sunset skies of evening, and looks down upon us from the beaming stars in the silence and sublimity of midnight. It decks Old Ocean's heaving waves and hollow-sounding caverns with a mysterious charm; and adorns the rugged brow of the mountain, the verdant depths of the valley, the pathless recesses of the forest, and its eternal homes. It smiles in the sunbeams, and blushes in every flower that decks the earth. Its voice is heard in the rolling thunder, the rushing whirlwind, and the never-ceasing cadence of the mighty cataract: its gentler song, murmured by myriads of tiny insects who rejoice in a bright existence, floats sweetly up to Heaven on every passing breeze.

Yes, the spirit of Poetry lives, and smiles, and speaks, in every thing around us. It is the first great charm of Nature—the masterspell of Creation. It appeals to the imperishable part of man, and stirs the divinity within him. It is the mystic chain that binds his spirit to the Invisible, ever-present, and ever-living Creator of the Universe.—*New Yorker.*

George III. had strong prejudices against Doctor Franklin, whose talents he admired and feared, and often cautioned his ministers lest he should obtain advantages over them. On one occasion the Royal dislike was shown in a whimsical way. Some of Franklin's political opponents absurdly attempted to prove that blunt conductors were better than pointed ones. The controversy waxed warm, on which he observed (taking no part in it) that his opponents were as much heated about one point as the Jansenists and Molinists, two antagonist sects in the Roman Catholic Church, were about five. In the midst of the dispute the pointed conductors were removed from the Queen's palace, and blunt ones substituted in a degree to the King's dislike of the American philosopher, who declined writing on the subject; saying, "the change of the King's conductor was of small importance, and if he had a wish on the subject, it would have been that his Majesty had rejected them altogether, as ineffectual, for it was only since he thought himself safe from the thunder of heaven, that he had dared to use his own thunder to destroy his innocent subjects." The wits amused themselves and the public at the expense of the philosophers and the monarch, in the following epigram!

While you, great George, for safety hunt,
 And sharp conductors change for blunt,
 The Empire's out of joint;
 Franklin a wiser course pursues,
 And gains what you are wont to lose,
 By keeping to the point.

SLEEPING AT CHURCH.—Dr. A—, of Cambridge, was once rather embarrassed by an occurrence in his congregation. An insane man who had received a public education, and was strongly attached to the doctor, had observed in the forenoon of a warm summer Sabbath, that several of the congregation slept in time of sermon. To prevent the recurrence of the evil in the afternoon, the man, having filled his bosom with windfalls from a neighboring orchard, posted himself in a convenient station in the side gallery, the front gallery, being occupied by the college students. Presently after the service commenced, he observed one asleep, and gently disengaged his hand from his bosom, he aimed its contents at the sleeper. This occasioned some disturbance, but when it subsided, a second sleeper's head was pelted with an apple. The preacher observing the occasion of the disturbance, requested his insane friend to desist. "Dr. A—," said the man, "mind your preaching and I will keep the dogs awake." It will scarcely need to be remarked, that for some time there was less inclination to sleep in the audience than usual.

OPTICAL DELUSION.—Place on white paper a circular piece of blue silk, about four inches in diameter; place on this a circular piece of yellow, three inches in diameter, on this a circle of pink, two inches in diameter, on this a circle of green, one inch in diameter

on this a circle of indigo, half an inch in diameter, making a small speck with ink in the centre—look on this central spot steadily for a minute, and then closing your eyes and applying your hand at about an inch distance before them, so as to prevent too much light passing through the eye-lids, you will see the most beautiful circles of colors the imagination can conceive, not only different from the colors of the silks above mentioned, but the colors will be perpetually changing in kaleidoscope variety as long as they exist.

Beauties of Ignorance. Among the numerous, odd epistles, which are now-a-days honored with a trip in her Majesty's mails, the following extract from one received by a person in this neighborhood, the other day, will at once show what trials and inconveniences friends at a distance are subjected to, by getting letters sent to them from relatives, who are not only bad writers, but totally destitute of that essential requisite, good spelling. In the present instance, it will be seen, that the want of the letter "s" at the end of grandfather, was the innocent cause of all the mental agitation, inconvenience and toil, which the parties experienced. A young man, along with two of his aunts, from a village in the south, had been working for some time past at the peeling of oak, at one of the woods in this vicinity, and one day last week he received per post a letter from a relation in the south, stating, among other things, that his father's stirk (stock) had deied of the murrill, and his grandfather of the same deacease. The intimation so alarmed them all, and especially the two females, that they could not rest satisfied but that their father was actually dead, and accordingly the whole trio set off at a distance of twenty-four miles, without scarcely taking breath; and on their arrival, we are glad to say, found the old man in high life and spirits, and busily engaged in his usual avocations.—*Perth Constitutional.*

Adieu. In using this expression, which habit has rendered trivial, few persons recollect its real origin and meaning, and that in pronouncing it they recommend their friend a *Dieu*—to the protection of God.

THE ALPHABET.—The twenty-four letters of the alphabet may be transposed 621,448,401,733,239,439,360,000 times. All the inhabitants of the globe, on a rough calculation, could not in a thousand millions of years, write all the transpositions of the twenty four letters, even supposing that each wrote forty pages daily, each of which contained forty different transpositions of the letters.—*Boston Weekly Magazine.*

A notorious sharper, having observed that there was no knowing one's friends till they were tried, was asked if most of his had not been tried.

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